

## Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 SAM-01 /093 W

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R 231505Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5545

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 100

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR MR SS MR AG LY

SUBJECT: SAHARA WATCH: MOROCCAN AND ALGERIAN COMMENTS

1. MOROCCAN CHARGE IN NOUAKCHOTT DISCUSSED LIBYAN INVOLVEMENT IN WESTERN SAHARA WITH EMBOFF APRIL 21. CHARGE CLAIMED MOROCCO IS AWARE OF ALL LIBYAN ACTIVITIES WHICH DEAL WITH SAHARA QUESTION. HE ARGUED THAT BY PROVIDING POLISARIO WITH MODEST QUANTITY OF ARMS THROUGH ALGERIA, LIBYA IS DOING MINIMUM NECESSARY FOR POLITICAL REASONS BUT NO MORE. MOROCCO CAN LIVE WITH CURRENT LIBYAN POLICY BECAUSE IT DOES NOT INTRODUCE SIGNIFICANT FACTOR INTO SAHAR AEQUATION AND ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING ALGERIA, UNDERSTAND THIS POINT. HE SAID LIBYAN RESTRAINT IS DUE TO TWO FACTORS: (A) ABILITY OF MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MOUKNASS TO PLAY ON QADHAFIJS OBSESSION WITH "PURITY" OF MAURITANIAN ISLAMIC CULTURE AND (B) LIBYA'S RECOGNITION THAT MOROCCO HAS THE "PROFESSIONALS" TO RESPOND IN KIND TO ANY LIBYAN ADVENTURES IN MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA. CHARGE WAS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT ACTIVITIES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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LIBYAN EMBASSY INMYAURITANIA. HE EMPHASIZED THAT MOROCCANS COULD AND WOULD MATCH ANYTHING LIBYANS MIGHT DO HERE WITH MOROCCAN "PROFESSIONALS" ALREADY IN NOUAXKHOTTM HE EXPECTS THAT LIBYA WILL CONTINUE ITS MODEST SUPPORT FOR

POLISARIO WHILE MAKING A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO LIMIT THE  
LEVEL OF ARMS SO THAT THE WEAPONS DO NOT PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE.

2. ALGERIAN DIPLOMAT RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFF THAT ON APRIL 20  
ALGIERS INSTRUCTED ALGERIAN OFFICIALS IN MAURITANIA TO  
PROVIDE AIR TICKETS TO ALGERIA FOR ALL ALGERIAN TECHNICIANS  
WORKING IN MAURITANIA WHO ARE FUNDED BY GOA. ALGERIAN  
OFFICIALS SUBSEQUENTLY TICKETED ALL TECHNICIANS FOR  
ALGIERS VIA DAKAR. THEY WILL DEPART IN SEVERAL GROUPS  
RATHER THAN ALL AT THE SAME TIME. ILUEACH CASE,  
NIGERIAN EMBASSY, WHICH HAS BEEN SELECTED TO HANDLE  
ALGERIAN INTERESTS, WILL FACILITATE DEPARTURE AT  
AIRPORT. THE ONLY ALGERIANS WHO WILL REMAIN IN MAU-  
RITANIA ARE THOSE EMPLOYED IN PRIVATE SECTOR OR WHOSE  
SALARIES ARE PAID BY GIRM. AFTER TECHNICIANS HAVE  
DEPARTED, REMAINING STAFF OF FORMER ALGERIAN EMBASSY  
WILL LEAVE. THIS OFTEN POSTPONED DEPARTURE SHOULD BE  
COMPLETED BY NEXT WEEK.HJ DYSIDE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 15 SEP 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERVENTION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NOUAKC00100  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D760019-0014  
**From:** NOUAKCHOTT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t197604115/baaaenjl.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SAHARA WATCH: MOROCCAN AND ALGERIAN COMMENTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, AO, MR, OAU  
**To:** STATE INFO ALGIERS  
DAKAR  
MADRID  
RABAT  
TRIPOLI

USUN NY

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006